(g) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Power Plants by NRIs

327. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are continuing the schemes of incentives for establishment of power plants by Non-Resident Indians;

(b) whether it is a fact that foreign investors are asking for more concessions;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what are the pending proposals to set up power plants in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) The policy to encourage private sector participation in power generation and distribution, which has been formulated in 1991 and is currently under implementation, is equally applicable to Indians as well as foreign investors.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The feasibility report for Wadapa Thermal Power Project (2x60 MW) in Nalgonda district submitted by M/s. Krishna Godavari Power Utilities Ltd., Visakhapatnam coal based power project (2x500 MW) submitted by M/s Hinduja National Power Corporation Ltd. and proposal for setting up Simhadri TPS (2x500 MW) under state sector by APSEB are under examination in CEA. In addition, Godavari gas based thermal power project (20, MW) and Jegurupadu gas based thermal power project (235 MW) in the East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh have been cleared by CEA subject to certain conditions. The pending issue of counter guarantee for these projects will be finalised after completion of discussions on the revision of PPAs.

Ban on Azo dyes in textile industry

328. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to ban the use of toxic azo dyes in textile industry as they release carcinogenic substances;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the proposed ban is likely to effect export of textiles from the country; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are contemplating to maintain the quantum of exports of textiles from the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) In India, there is already a ban on the use of benzidene based dyes and salts. However, in the context of the German Government's legislation to ban import of textiles involving the use of specified azo dyes (including the benzidene based dyes) from July, 1995, the Government of India has initiated steps to review those dyes and to identify alternate permissible dyes so as to maintain the tempo of exports. Besides, the Textiles Committee, different Textile Export Promotion Councils, Textile Research Associations etc. are actively engaged in creating awareness among the textile industry and trade regarding the dyes to be used for exports of eco-friendly textiles in line with the German legislation.

Fabric production of M|s. Reliance Industries Ltd.

329. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fabrics production of M|s Reliance Industries Ltd.;